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13	Attorneys for Plaintiffs, DEMETRIC DI-AZ and OWEN DIAZ	
14	DEMETRIC DI-AZ and OWEN DIAZ	
15	UNITED STATES	DISTRICT COURT
16	NORTHERN DISTRI	CT OF CALIFORNIA
17		
18	DEMETRIC DI-AZ, OWEN DIAZ, and	Case No. 3:17-cv-06748-WHO
19	LAMAR PATTERSON,	DECICAL TION OF TECTIMONIA
	Plaintiffs,	DESIGNATION OF TESTIMONY PRESENTED BY VIDEO OF ERIN
20		MARCONI
21	V.	William Colu
	TESLA, INC. dba TESLA MOTORS, INC.;	Trial Date: September 24, 2021
22	CITISTAFF SOLUTIONS, INC.; WEST VALLEY STAFFING GROUP;	Complaint filed: October 16, 2017
23	CHARTWELL STAFFING SERVICES, INC.;	
	and DOES 1-50, inclusive,	
24	Defendants.	
25		
26		
27	To ensure a complete record, Plaintiff Ov	wen Diaz provides the following deposition
28	testimony from Erin Marconi which was present	ed by video to the jury on September 30, 2021.
	J ==== ::=== ::=== ::=== ::=== ::=== ::== presente	J

Marconi, Erin 10/21/19, Volume 1

2	#	Lines	Deposition Excerpt
3	1.	13:17-	17 What did you do after you left Volt as a
³		14:05	18 program manager?
4			19 A I went to Tesla as an HR business partner.
ا ء			20 Q So that would be approximately 2013?
5			21 A Correct.
6			22 Q How long were you an HR business partner at 23 Tesla?
,			24 A Until January 2017.
7			25 Q And what was your job title after you – after
8			1 January 2017?
			2 A I took a time off work. I had been a
9			3 caregiver for my mother.
10			4 Q And have you worked at Tesla since that time?
			5 A No.
11	2.	14:09-	9 Q Okay. What were the job duties of an HR
12		14:21	10 business partner in your role?
			11 A Strategic partner with the business management
13			12 teams from work planning, succession planning. Time to
14			13 time would help out if recruiting was needed, but that
•			14 wasn't primary. 15 A lot of HR generalist at the beginning. That
15			16 went away as we grew. Employee relations,
16			17 investigations, performance management. Employee
			18 engagement.
17			19 Q It sounds like
18			20 A Probably about covers it. A little bit of
			21 everything.
19	3.	15:03-	3 Q Okay. So investigations were part of your job
20		15:05	4 as an HR business partner; is that right?
20			5 A Correct.
21	4.	27:12-	12 Q But the HR business partner team that you were
22		27:15	13 part of was in charge of handling, among other things,
²²			14 complaints about discrimination or harassment; right?15 A Correct.
23	5.	33:17-	17 Q Okay. But it's fair to say that you at least
24	<i>J</i> .	33:20	18 understood what Tesla's policies were in terms of
²⁴		33.20	19 anti-discrimination and anti-harassment; right?
25			20 A Correct
26	6.	35:02-	2 Q So with that understanding of the definition
20		35:07	3 of n of the n-word, is it your understanding that
27			4 Tesla's anti-harassment and anti-discrimination
,			5 zero-tolerance policies prohibit use of the n-word at
28			6 the Tesla facility?
			7 A Yes.

1	7.	36:05-	5 Q Okay. And if you had known about someone
		36:13	6 using the n-word at the Tesla factory, that would
2			7 certainly be something that you would investigate;
3			8 correct?
			9 A Absolutely.
4			10 Q And the reason that you would investigate that
5			11 is use of the n-word at the Tesla factory could create a
			12 hostile work environment for other workers; right?
6	0	27.04	13 A Correct.
7	8.	37:04-	4 Do you recall ever investigating a claim where
′		37:06	5 it was alleged that the n-word was used?
8	9.	39:02-	6 A Not specifically. 2 Q Was there ever any kind of meeting among HR
	3.	39:02-	3 professionals about, like, sensitivity training or how
9		37.00	4 to address a situation where the n-word was being used
10			5 in the workplace?
			6 A Specifically regarding the n-word?
11			7 Q Yeah.
12			8 À No.
	10.	38:05-	5 Q I see.
13		38:15	6 It's fair to say that the HR team that did
14			7 investigations would talk to each other about what was
-			8 going on in the workplace; is that true?
15			9 A As needed.
16			10 Q And certainly if the n-word had been used in
10			11 the workplace there, that would be a fairly big issue.
17			12 Is that true, from an HR perspective?
10			13 A Yes, it would be a big issue, but don't know
18			14 that that would necessarily mean it would be discussed
19	11.	42.21	15 in a group. Investigations were need-to-know
•	11.	42:21- 43:05	21 Q Okay. But under Tesla's guidelines or22 policies for anti-harassment complaints, if a member of
20		45.05	23 the leadership team, supervisor, manager, director,
21			24 received a complaint of harassment, they were to at
			25 least inform HR that they had received such a complaint;
22			1 is that true?
23			2 A Yes.
			3 Q And that was true throughout the time that you
24			4 worked at Tesla; right?
25			5 A Yes.
26			
20			

27

12. 49:07- 49:23 49:23 7 Q In fact, every — every employer has a duty to 8 make sure that its workers are working in an environment 9 that is harassment-free; right? 10 A Correct. 11 Q And that would include harassment based on sex 12 or race or any of those other prohibited categories; 13 right? 14 A Yes. 15 Q Similarly, every employer is — has a duty to 16 make sure that once it knows about harassment, that it 17 takes some sort of corrective action to make sure that 18 the harassment doesn't continue; right? 10 A Yes. 20 Q And in California, every employer must take 21 all reasonable steps necessary to prevent discrimination 22 and harassment from occurring; right? 23 A Yes. 13. 51:02- 2 Q You would agree that it's never okay to use 3 the n-word in the workplace? 4 A Correct. 5 Q And you'd also agree that it's never okay to 6 make offensive drawings that could be racial in nature; 7 right? 8 A Correct. 9 Q You'd agree that every employer has a duty to 10 provide a workplace where employees are not using the 11 n-word towards other employees? 12 A Yes. 14. 51:23- 23 If — if a Tesla worker complains about 24 harassment to their supervisor, that meets their at 25 least initial burden under Tesla's policies for 1 reporting harassment; right? 2 A Yes. 15. 6 A Yes. 7 Q Similarly, if an employee wanted to report an 8 issue of harassment to a manager, that would satisfy 9 Tesla's reporting requirements; right? 16. 55:23- 20 Q And in terms of the standards, the 24 anti-discrimination, anti-harassment policy standards 25 that applied to workers at the Tesla factory, those 1 standards applied to both regular full-time Tesla 2 employees and to the temporary workers who were working 3 at the plant; right? 4 A Yes.				
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2 employees and to the temporary workers who were working 3 at the plant; right?				
3 at the plant; right?	28			
4 A Yes.				
				4 A Yes.

1	16.	56:22-	22 Q A temporary worker would be doing a task that
2		57:07	23 a Tesla employee might also do; is that true?
_			24 A Yes.
3			25 Q And a temporary worker could also would at 1 there would be at least some
4			2 reporting structure to a Tesla employee, is that right,
.			3 for a temporary worker?
5			4 A Correct
6			5 Q And so even if they're –
			6 A And then a dotted line to their actual
7			7 employer.
8	17.	57:21-	21 but as far as like I wouldn't want to investigate for
		58:9	22 West Valley for their employee. I would be happy to
9			23 facilitate. 24 Does that make sense?
10			25 Q So Tesla's HR role for a complaint by a
			1 temporary worker would be to facilitate the
11			2 investigation. Is that true typically?
12			3 A Primary first thing would be obviously,
			4 depending on what that is, are they comfortable or do
13			5 they feel threatened. Those kind of things you want to
14			6 take care of in the immediate.
1.5			7 The next thing I would do is get them
15			8 connected with the person that would have been my role 9 for their employer.
16	18.	58:10-	10 Q Okay. And if someone does complain about what
17		58:15	11 they consider to be inappropriate conduct, and they feel
1 /			12 threatened, you would agree that as a Tesla HR person,
18			13 you would still have a responsibility to make sure that
19			14 nothing happened to them further; right?
	10	50.16	15 A Oh, absolutely
20	19.	58:16- 59:5	16 Q And as a Tesla HR person, if someone had 17 complained about like threatening conduct or feeling
21		37.3	18 that they were threatened, you would at least have to
			19 make that workplace safe for them from that point that
22			20 you find out about it on; right?
23			21 A In the immediate, absolutely. If then it
24			22 was the investigation was conducted and it, say, only
24			23 involved temporary people that were all under West 24 Valley
25			25 Q Yeah.
26			1 A if West Valley investigated it and came
-			2 back and said there wasn't actually an issue, I'm going
27			3 to believe that West Valley did their investigation
28			4 thoroughly and if there was something to address,
			5 addressed it.

Ш			
ı	20.	59:8-21	8 You you typically rely on the contract
$\lfloor \frac{1}{2} \rfloor$			9 contracting agency to do an investigation into
			10 complaints by their employees; is that right?
3			11 A If it is involving other of their employees. 12 If it is involving Tesla employees, then I
₁			13 would talk to probably Tesla employees, they would talk
·			14 to their employees.
5			15 If the stars align and everyone was in the
5			16 building or in the same side of the country and we would
			17 help sometimes I had been there when they were
7			18 interviewing their employee and vice versa. But I
3			19 wouldn't my preference would not be to interview
'			20 someone else's employee, and especially not without them
·	21	50.00	21 present.
,	21.	59:22- 60:10	22 Q In terms of Tesla's duty, though, to all of
		00:10	23 its employees, it has a it has a duty to both its 24 regular employees and the contractors to make sure that
			25 all of those people work in a work environment free from
<u>.</u>			1 harassment or discrimination based on race; right?
			2 A Correct.
			3 Q And so if if Tesla HR became aware of a
			4 problem, let's say use of the n-word or use of racial
			5 drawings, Tesla would still have to make sure that that
			6 conduct stopped; right?
			7 A Assuming that an investigation found that that
			8 conduct did happen?
			9 Q Right.
	22.	61:10-	10 A Then yes.
	22.	14	10 Q And if someone is complaining about conduct, 11 do they have to complain in writing or can they also
		1.	12 complain verbally about inappropriate conduct in the
			13 workplace at Tesla?
			14 A Either.
	23.	62:9-13	9 Q And, similarly, if a person doesn't use
			10 "discrimination" or "harassment" in their complaint,
			11 they can still be complaining about what's
			12 discrimination or harassment; right?
	2:	64.01	13 A Correct.
	24.	64:24-	24 Q Tesla had video cameras throughout the
		65:04	25 facility; is that true? 1 A Correct.
			2 Q And if there was an altercation, would you
			3 like to see if there was video footage of the incident?
			4 A Absolutely.
		l	

1	25.	67:08-	8 There were numerous situations where Tesla
		67:13	9 employees were supervising temporary workers who were
2			10 employed by contractors; right?
3			11 A Who were like a West Valley?
			12 Q Yeah.
4	26	60.02	13 A Yes.
5	26.	69:03-	3 Q Okay. But based on the contract that you knew
		69:06	4 about that Volt had with Tesla, it was understood that
6			5 the Volt temporary workers would be subject to Tesla's6 policies for working at that facility; right?
7	27.	69:10-	10 THE WITNESS: Yes, as well as their
,	27.	69:11	11 employer's
8	28.	69:22-	22 Temporary workers who were working through a
9		70:04	23 staffing agency at a Tesla facility had to follow the
			24 rules and regulations of the staffing agency and of
10			25 Tesla?
11			1 A Yes.
11			2 Q And that was true throughout the time that you
12			3 worked at Tesla; right?
13			4 A Yes.
13	29.	73:20-	20 Q Okay. Wayne Jackson was one of the nextSource
14		74:08	21 representatives working at working for nextSource at
1.5			22 the plant; is that right?
15			23 A I am not completely sure. I don't recall ever
16			24 meeting him face to face. NextSource wasn't set up the 25 way that temporary workers were.
			1 Q NextSource was actually more of a conduit for
17			2 other staffing agencies, wasn't it?
18			3 A My understanding is they were brought on
			4 statement of work project or on a PO, but I don't
19			5 have can't confirm that.
20			6 Q Okay. Do you recall what the statement of
			7 work was about?
21			8 A I do not.
22			
23			
	I		

	1		
1	30.	80:21-	21 Q Okay. Tell me about that. What was the
		82:3	22 situation in which you did some sensitivity training for
2			23 a group relative was it relative to the n-word or was
3			24 it
			25 A No.
4			1 t was the tell me about the
			2 situation where you did sensitivity training for a
5			3 group.
6			4 A It was an offensive drawing that we were
			5 unable to determine who did the drawing. And I say
7			6 "offensive"; it was a sexual drawing that clearly
			7 offended folks.
8			8 That department was, I believe, over 500
9			9 people. So we brought everyone together each shift,
			10 went over how that was not okay; if we ever could find
10			11 out who it was, it wouldn't be tolerated.
			12 An investigation couldn't pinpoint who it was
11			13 because there wasn't a camera in that particular area,
12			14 we addressed the whole entire team, and then did
			15 sensitivity training that covered pretty much
13			16 everything.
14			17 And even if I tell you a joke about the sky
14			18 being blue and you think it's funny today and you don't
15			19 tomorrow, then I can't tell you that joke anymore.
			20 Q Do you remember what department it was in?
16			21 A I think it was stamping.
17			22 Q Okay. In terms of the drawing I don't mean
1 /			23 to offend you or anything, but can you describe the
18			24 sexual drawing that you ended up having to do
10			25 sensitivity training for.
19			1 A If I recall correctly, somebody put boobs on
20			2 like you know the male/female symbols on bathrooms?
			3 Somebody drew boobs.
21			

1	31.	84:17-	17 That sensitivity training came out of the fact	1
		85:09	18 that there were these there was a visual harassment	
2			19 in this the boobs on the bathroom door.	
3			20 Is that what caused the training to come	
			21 about?	
4			22 A Yes. Someone was offended by the boobs drawn.	
_			23 Q Okay. And how was the decision made as a	
5			24 result of that to do a sensitivity training? Why was	
6			25 that the outcome?	
			1 make sure that everyone	
7			2 understood what the expectation was, and if it makes	
8			3 someone uncomfortable, it's not okay.	
0			4 Q Right. Okay.	
9			5 And do you recall any other sensitivity	
1.0			6 trainings that were done relative to either race or sex	
10			7 issues that you were involved in?	
11			8 A Not that I recall. I mean, other than your	
			9 regular annual required of supervisor and above.	J
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13				
14				
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1	32.	85:21-	21 Q Okay. Now, I'm going to show you what has
2		87:04	22 been previously marked as Exhibit 37. And just so the
۷			23 record is clear, Exhibit 37 is a three-page document
3			24 Bates-stamped Tesla 35 through 37, and it's a complaint
,			25 by Owen Diaz about a racist drawing, or what he
4			1 considered to be a racist drawing.
5			2 And I'm wondering if you recall seeing this 3 email, or the picture that's attached.
			4 A I don't recall seeing the picture, and I don't
6			5 specifically recall seeing it, given the time. It very
7			6 well could have been something that I was "Here's a
			7 heads-up" kind of thing, and I just don't recall.
8			8 Q Okay. Okay.
9			9 Based on your you just read the complaint
			10 by Mr. Diaz from January 22nd, 2016. Based on that
10			11 complaint and in your experience as a professional HR
11			12 person, would that be sufficient to trigger an
			13 investigation, in your mind, his complaint along with
12			14 the pictures?
13			15 A Yes.
			16 Q And would as a trained investigator, given 17 this written information and the confirming picture,
14			18 would you expect there to be an investigation as a
15			19 result of that?
			20 A Yes.
16			21 Q If you were conducting the investigation,
17			22 would you interview the people that are identified in
1,			23 Mr. Diaz's email?
18			24 A Depending on if they were Tesla employees or
19			25 employees of another company, either I would if they
-			1 were Tesla employees, or I would ask that the primary 2 employer, for lack of a better way to put it, did. And
20			3 if it was a combination, work together if at all
21			4 possible.
	33.	88:20-	20 So if Michael Wheeler and the Israel the
22		89:07	21 guy whose name is Israel in this were both Tesla
23			22 employees, those interviews you would expect would be
			23 done by Tesla HR, and then the interviews assuming
24			24 that Ramon Martinez and Owen Diaz are temporary
25			25 employees working through a staffing agency, you would
			1 interviewed by their 2 respective contracting agencies: correct?
26			2 respective contracting agencies; correct? 3 A Correct.
27			4 I have had occasion to that whoever was on
			5 site for, say, West Valley wasn't well versed or
28			6 comfortable. So if that kind of situation came up, I
			7 would assist, but would make sure that they were there.
- 11	1 	-	

1	34.	97:12-	12 Q If you look at Mr. Diaz's statement on Tesla
۱ ا		98:05	13 22, which is the third page of Exhibit 128, and you look
2			14 down at the bottom of what his statement is, he says
3			15 that:
,			16 "As a supervisor or leads, we are held to
4			17 a higher standard because the people we
5			18 supervise look to us as examples."19 Is that is that a true statement for people
			20 who were acting as leads or supervisors at Tesla, that
6			21 they were examples for other employees?
7			22 A Absolutely for Tesla employees.
			23 Q Okay. And if a supervisor
8			24 A I'm not aware of anybody that was working as a
9			25 lead or a supervisor that wasn't a Tesla employee.
			1 Q Okay. But regardless, even if someone was a
10			2 temporary worker through a staffing agency, if they were
11			3 working in a lead position, they would need to adhere to
			4 Tesla policies; right?
12	35.	99:22-	5 A I believe so.22 You understand that this drawing that's on the
13	33.	100:20	23 fourth page of Exhibit 128, that that drawing is a
		100.20	24 drawing that could be offensive to African Americans?
14			25 A Yes.
15			1 Q Right?
			2 A Yes.
16			3 Q And it's a caricature that historically was
17			4 used it's been called a "pickaninny." Have you heard
			5 that expression before?
18			6 A Yes.
19			7 Q And it was historically this drawing with 8 the bone in the hair was historically a way to put down
•			9 African Americans; right?
20			10 A That's my understanding.
21			11 Q So if you had understood that Mr. Martinez had
22			12 admitted to putting this poster to putting this
22			13 drawing up, and also to have threatened Mr. Diaz
23			14 previously, you would expect that Mr. Martinez would be
24			15 fired pursuant to Tesla policy, wouldn't you?
24			16 A Assuming all of that is true
25			17 Q Yeah. 18 A I wouldn't presume what nextSource does,
26			19 but I would ask them not to have him return to an
26			20 assignment at Tesla.
27		I	

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36.	100:22-	22 Now, if you go on to Mr. Diaz's statement:
	101:07	23"and because nothing has been done, it
		24 seems that his behavior is getting worse."
		25 That would be a concern to you as a Tesla
		1 it, if conduct is getting worse?
		2 A Absolutely.
		3 Q Where Mr. Diaz then says:
		4 "As an employee, I'm entitled to a safe
		5 and harassment-free work environment,"
		6 that's true; right?
		7 A Yes.
37.	104:15-	15 Q Okay. Now, certainly if Ramon Martinez were
	19	16 yelling at him and threatening him, that would violate
		17 Tesla's policies; right? at least the threatening
		18 part?
		19 A Yes. Assuming it's Ramon Martinez.
38.	107:23-	23 Q Okay. So in general, you had sometimes you
	108:02	24 had to push nextSource to get you the information you
		25 needed so that you could evaluate –
		1 A And go about things the way that we had asked
		2 them to go about them

1	39.	108:4-	4 Exhibit 35 for the record is a three-page
2		109:12	5 document Bates-stamped Tesla 140 to 142. And it appears
2			6 that at least in this situation with respect to Ramon
3			7 Martinez and Owen Diaz, that eventually at least it got
4			8 forwarded to you.
4			9 Do you see that? 10 A Yes.
5			11 Q And so at least at some point you did get 12 Mr. Diaz's statement about
			his the threat that he
6			13 perceived from Ramon Martinez; correct? 14 A Owen's statement?
7			15 Q Yeah.
			16 A Assuming this whole thread was actually
8			17 forwarded at the time?
9			18 Q Yeah.
			19 A Yes. If it was, I can't say for sure.
10			20 Q Okay. But based on the email chain, I mean, 21 it looks like it was
11			forwarded to you. Do you see that?
			22 A Correct.
12			23 Q Okay.
13			24 A Several days later; right? Yeah.
13			25 Q Yeah. 1 made on the 17th, and then
14			2 forwarded again on the 20th to Wayne Jackson, and then
15			3 it looks like Wayne Jackson forwarded it to you on that
13			4 same day, on the 20th.
16			5 A Terri.
17			6 Q I'm sorry. Terri.
17			7 A Yeah.
18			8 Q Terri forwarded it to you that same day,
10			9 October 20th of 2015; right?
19			10 A Yes. And based on that, it would appear that 11 it was all nextSource
20			employees involved, other than
21	40	100.12	12 Victor and Ed.
21	40.	109:13- 19	13 Q Okay. And it looks like maybe Ed was talking
22		19	14 about getting involved here, and Terri Garrett was 15 asking for your help as to whether or not Mr. Romero 16 should be involved in the investigation; right?
			17 A It looks like she wants him not to be
23			18 involved.
24			19 Q Right.
25	41.	116:22-	22 Q And the correct response to threatening 23 conduct is to remove that
25		25	individual from the factory;
26			24 right?
			25 A Correct.
27			

1	42.	119:23-	23 Q Okay. But if an allegation of racist of a 24 racial term, particularly if it's	
2		120:04	the n-word, is 25 confirmed, that's the kind of information that 1 supervisors	
2			and managers such as Ed Romero and Victor	1
3			2 Quintero were trained to at least forward to HR;	1
,			3 correct?	1
4	43.	123:09-	4 A Yes. 9 Q But any worker who is subject who is	_
5	43.	123:09-	10 working in the Tesla factory is subject to Tesla 11 policies; correct?	1
		123.10	12 A Yes.	1
6			13 Q And and any worker who is being harassed or	1
7			14 discriminated against, regardless of who they work for, 15 if if the	1
			harassment or discrimination occurs in the	1
8			16 Tesla factory, Tesla has a responsibility to do 17 something about it if it	ı
9			knows about it; right? 18 A Yes.	
10	44.	133:16-	16 Q I do understand that. I'm wondering,	
10		23	17 though we've looked at some documents which showed	
11			18 numerous complaints about the n-word, several complaints	1
			19 about the n-word, and I'm wondering if there was any	1
12			20 kind of discussion in human resources that there was a	1
13			21 need to address the use of that word in particular in 22 the workplace.	1
			23 A Not that I recall.	1
14	45.	134:20-	20 Q And if there had been such an investigation by	_
15		135:03	21 anybody at Tesla, there should have been at least some	1
			22 kind of written record of that; right?	1
16			23 A Yes.	1
17			24 Q Because that's what Tesla policy requires is	1
			25 documentation of any kind of investigation that's done;	1
18			1 right?	1
19			2 A Yes. Mine, for the most part, were	1
	<u> </u>		3 handwritten	۷
20				
21				
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